



The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

Vol. 29, No. 13 - Friday, July 1, 2005 - Brooks City-Base, TX

Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

# Authorized personnel to get anthrax vaccination

By 2nd Lt. John Chattaway 311th Human Systems Wing/PA

The Department of Defense announced it would resume its Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program under the conditions set forth in the emergency use authorization issued by the Food and Drug Administration.

The EUA is only in effect until July 27, at which time the FDA will either extend the EUA or stop vaccinating.

Under the EUA, the only people offered the Anthrax vaccination at this time are DoD personnel deploying to either the Central Command area of responsibility or Korea, for more than 15 days, said Maj. (Dr.) David Ortiz, Brooks AVIP Medical Officer-In Charge.

"It is optional and people need to understand that they have the right to refuse the vaccine without any fear of retribution or punishment," said Major Ortiz.

In the past, the anthrax vaccination had been mandatory and that issue will be reconsidered after the FDA completes its administrative review, which DoD expects to occur later in 2005. "The message we want to get out is that inhalation anthrax is a very deadly disease," said Major Ortiz. "Inhalation anthrax is usually not detected until it's too late. The anthrax vaccine does offer a lot of protection against it."

In fact, a study in mill workers showed the anthrax vaccine was 92.5 percent effective in preventing anthrax. According to the EUA, if someone started anthrax vaccinations, but had doses delayed, they do not have to restart the series. They will simply pick up where it left off. The FDA-licensed schedule for anthrax vaccine is six doses over 18 months.

People need to understand their health and safety are the DoD's number one concern, said Major Ortiz. The vaccination is safe, effective and offers a layer of protection in addition to antibiotics and other measures needed for certain members of the armed forces.

"This directive is a significant step that allows the department of defense to resume this vital protection measure for military personnel, who are at an increased risk of exposure to an anthrax attack," said Dr. William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for heath affairs.

To find out if you qualify for the anthrax vaccine or for more information regarding anthrax, visit www.anthrax.mil or contact Major Ortiz at 536-6884 or call the base clinic.

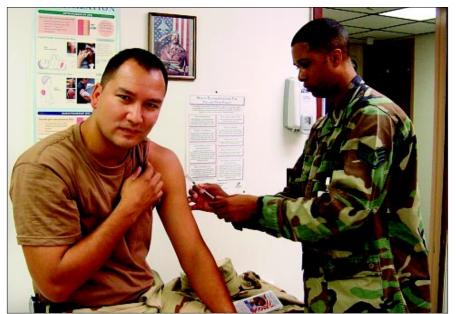


Photo by Staff Sgt. Jody Holliday

Lt. Col. Jason Dudjak of the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence receives an anthrax vaccination from Staff Sgt. Maurice Wilson, NCOIC of Allergy/Immunizations at the Brooks Clinic.

#### CHANGE OF COMMAND



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez

Lt. Col. Virginia Swentkofske (right) assumed command of the 68th Information Squadron, as Col. Bruce Heinlein, commander of the 67th Information Operations Group, presents her the organization's flag at a change of command ceremony at Hangar 9 Thursday. Former commander Lt. Col. Stephen Smith reliquished commnd.

# End of era for TSP's 'open season'

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE — The restrictions of having only two open seasons each year for civilian and military members to sign up for, stop, resume or change their Thrift Savings Plan contributions has ended.

Public Law 108-469 goes into effect today, eliminating restrictions on contribution elections that have always been tied to TSP open seasons, officials said.

The elimination of open seasons affects civilian and military members who are eligible to contribute to TSP in the following ways:

- Gives people more flexibility in managing their TSP contribution amounts depending on their personal situations.
- Civilians can now make 26 or 27 TSP contribution elections per year (based on pay periods) and servicemembers 24 per year.
- Contribution elections submitted on or after today will be effective at the beginning

of the pay period following the one in which the election is submitted.

"What hasn't changed is the contribution limits set for 2005," said Janet Thomas of Air Force Personnel Center's civilian benefits and entitlement service team here.

Employees may continue to contribute to TSP based on the system they are currently under for 2005 — Civil Service Retirement System, 10 percent; Federal Employees' Retirement System, 15 percent; or the military pay system, 10 percent

The law eliminating open seasons does not eliminate the waiting period that newly hired or rehired FERS employees not previously eligible must serve before they can begin to receive agency contributions. Participants who make an in-service financial hardship withdrawal may not make TSP contribution elections for a six-month period following the withdrawal.

"As a reminder, Air Force-serviced civilian employees must make TSP contribution elections via the (Benefits and Entitlements Service Team) automated phone system or the Employee Benefits Information System," Ms. Thomas said.

Instructions on how to access the BEST automated Web and phone system is available online at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/automated.htm.

Information on the overall TSP is also available at www.tsp.gov.



Local July 4 celebrations -Page 3



Aviation medicine series — Page 13



Intramural volleyball — Page 15







The Discovery is published by Prime Time Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the United States Air Force, under exclusive contract with Brooks City-Base, Texas.

This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services. Contents of the Discovery are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the United States Government, the Department of Defense or the United States Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Prime Time Corp. of the products or services advertised.

Everything in this publication is edited, prepared and provided by the 311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs Office of Brooks City- Base. Material for the Discovery should be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted to 311HSW/PA, 2510 Kennedy Circle, Brooks City-Base, TX 78235-5115 by noon the Wednesday prior to the week of publication. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Articles may also be submitted by fax by calling 536-3235 or by e-mail.

Articles may be submitted by email to Kendahl.Johnson@brooks.af.mil or to Discovery@brooks.af.mil.

The Discovery is published every other week on Friday. Contact the editor at 536-5141 for more information.

Discovery advertising

Deadline for display advertising is noon the Friday preceding the publication date. To advertise in the Discovery, call 675-4500 or send advertising copy to Prime Time Military Newspapers, P.O. Box 27040, San Antonio, Texas 78227.

Discovery Editorial Staff: Brig. Gen. Tom Travis 311th Human Systems Wing Commander Larry Farlow Director of Public Affairs Kendahl Johnson Editor — kendahl.johnson@brooks.af.mil Rudy Purificato Chief Writer — rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil Elizabeth Castillo Staff Writer — elizabeth.castillo@brooks.af.mil

Tech. Sqt. Anita Schroeder Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr. Staff Sgt. Brandy Bogart

Discovery logo by Arlene Schirmer



Sylvia Black, Publisher Pia Goodman, Prod. Mgr. Pat McCain, Classified Mgr. Diane Bohl, Sales Manager Sherry Snoga, Account Exec. Brandy Davis, Account Exec.

Advertising (210) 675-4500 FAX: (210) 675-4577 sblack@txdirect.net



William A. Johnson Gregg R. Rosenfield Senior Vice President Sales and Marketing

Community Newspapers:

North San Antonio Times — Northside Recorder Bulverde Community News — Southside Reporter The Herald

Military Newspapers: Fort Sam Houston News Leader Lackland Talespinner — Kelly USA Observer Medical Patriot — Randolph Wingspread Brooks Discovery Specialty Publications: Daily Commercial Recorder — Que Pasa!

S.A.Kids Graphics & Printing Services: Prime Time Graphics Christopher Press (Web printing)

Go to http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery

Air Force leaders send Independence Day message The following is an Independence Day message from Michael Dominguez, acting secretary of the Air Force,

and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper:

This July 4th, we celebrate our nation's 229th year of independence. In those 229 years, the United States has embodied the principles of democracy and presented freedom's virtues for countless nations and people.

Our road to democracy began with the original 13 colonies and hasn't always been easy. The United States has fought for her freedom and ideals whenever and wherever needed. We continue to do so today, with Airmen deployed and engaged in the global war on terrorism.

As you celebrate our independence this year, keep those who are serving far away from home, and their families, in your thoughts and prayers. Remember their sacrifices and the sacrifices of courageous patriots who came before them.

You, America's Airmen, represent the very best we have to offer. Citizens of this nation and people of the world look to you as defenders of freedom. We couldn't be more proud of your strength and unity, and we thank you and your families for your selfless service. Have a safe and happy Fourth of July.

If you choose to use consumer fireworks to celebrate this year's Fourth of July festivities,

- A responsible adult should supervise all fireworks activities.
- Never give fireworks to young children.
- Always purchase fireworks from reliable sources.
- Follow label directions carefully.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- · Use fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from buildings and vehicles.
- Light them one at a time then move back quickly.

remember the following safety tips from the National Council on Fireworks Safety:

- Never carry fireworks in your pocket or shoot them in metal or glass containers.
- Don't experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Observe local laws and use common sense.
- · Sparklers, fountains and other items that many states allow for use by consumers are not appropriate when a large crowd is present. If attending a community display, leave your own fireworks at home — there will be plenty of excitement provided by the display.

#### Climb 'aboard' with Ticket to Ride

By Kendahl Johnson

Discovery editor

In an effort to find the best board games available, alternatives for classic yet tired games like Monopoly and Risk, several co-workers and I sat down for a game of Ticket to Ride – the 2004 winner of the Spiel des Jahres award, perhaps the world's most prestigious game award. Although our group had never played the game, we were all willing participants – "anything in the pursuit of journalism excellence," one colleague said.

The contrived theme of Ticket to Ride is fans of Phileas Fogg, the eccentric London gent of "Around the World in 80 Days" fame, have gathered and announced a new contest. At stake is \$1 million to the player who can travel by rail to the most cities in North America in seven days. Although interesting, this had little to do with game play. In reality, it's a game about collecting train cards, claiming rail routes and connecting cities.

Players begin the game with 45 trains, four train cards and three destination cards. (Each player must keep two of the destination cards they are dealt, but may keep all three if they desire.) A player then has three options on his or her turn:

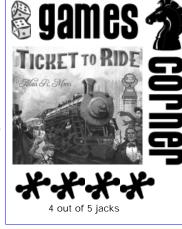
1) Draw two train cards. The player may draw the cards from the drafting row, or from the top of the facedown train deck.

2) Claim a route. To claim a route, the player must play a set of train cards that match the color and number of segments in the route. The player then places one of his trains on each segment in that route. Neutral gray routes may be claimed by playing a set of identically colored cards, so these are a bit easier to grab. A player may only claim one route per turn. When a player claims a route, points are scored according to the length of the train.

3) Draw destination tickets. The player may draw three destination tickets, keeping one, two or all three. Choosing whether to select new destination cards and choosing which ones to keep can cause some anxiety, as unfinished destination tickets count against the person's score at the end of the game. The points earned from successfully completing destinations can be significant as can the penalties for failing to do so.

Rules: The game is easy to learn, easy to teach and easy to play, even for younger players. The rulebook is only three pages long and is nicely illustrated. None of the rules were difficult to comprehend and after just five minutes everyone had learned the game and was immersed in play.

Length: The game ends when a player has less than three tokens remaining. Because each player begins with a limited number of trains, the game time is also limited. Our game lasted approximately one hour. With a different number of players



(the game scales from two to five players) this play time may vary.

Strategy: This game is not a brain-burner, but there are some subtle strategic choices that must be made. Players have several options in planning a long-term strategy. They can ignore their destination cards and focus on making points by placing long trains. Or they can try to complete as many ticket cards as possible, not worrying too much about how long of trains they place on the board. Then, there is the middle ground but is a compromise of the two strategies enough to win? Players must also watch other players, and occasionally claim a route that blocks an opponent. There is a reasonable element of game tension that builds as players try balancing efficiency with getting the tracks that they need before they are taken by other players.

Competitiveness: This game for the most part is lighthearted family fun. When playing against my in-laws and wife, everyone focused on their own routes, never bothering to try to mess up someone else's plans (at least intentionally). Sometimes the best move for a player is to place train cars between cities they don't truly care about just to stop another player either from getting the longest chain of cars or completing their destination tickets. This can cause some anguish, but its all in good fun. Overall, the player interaction from taking cards to placing trains is enjoyable and light-hearted.

Ticket to Ride is a highly enjoyable game and one I can highly recommend to both casual and hard-core board gamers. Although families are generally conscious of how entertainment dollars are spent, this game is an excellent investment at less than \$30. (I purchased my copy via the Internet, but it is available in a few specialty game shops in San Antonio.)

Lastly, Ticket to Ride passed my spouse test. Generally, if my wife finishes a game in last place, the game goes on the shelf and will rarely get played again. My wife enjoyed playing Ticket to Ride though she lost dreadfully. Any game that she can lose dreadfully and still want to play again is definitely a keeper.



#### Local bases announce July 4 celebrations

Randolph Air Force Base

Randolph AFB will celebrate Independence Day with a celebration that will include live music, a fitness and sports skills area, children's area, and 28 food booths. Gates open Monday at 5 p.m., and the event is expected to conclude at approximately 9:45 p.m.

Food booths will offer a variety of items from hamburgers, hot dogs and nachos to pizza, fajita plates and roasted corn and many others in between. The children's area will feature a petting zoo, giant inflatable slide and bungee run, tattoo station, basketball hoop bouncy, and bead, tattoo and patriotic hats stations.

Participants in the fitness and sports skills area will challenge their basketball shooting and football toss skills, and compete in hula hoop and ball in spoon races. The Mike Clifford Band will perform from 5:30-7:30 p.m., and the Austin Rockefellas will perform from 7:30 to 9:15 p.m. A fireworks show will start around 9:20 p.m. For more information, call 652-2052.

#### Lackland Air Force Base

Lackland AFB celebrates the Fourth with its 27th annual Star Spangled Festival Monday on the Amphitheater grounds next to the Gateway Club. The Gateway East Gate, the only entrance to the event, opens to the public at noon. Actvities include a car show from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; an arts and crafts show from noon to 8 p.m.; food booths and games from noon to 10 p.m.; and family entertainment and children's rides from 5-10 p.m.

Concert gates open at 5 p.m. with Two Tons of Steel performing at 6 p.m.; Mingo Fishtrap at 7 p.m.; and headliner Los Palominos at 8:30 p.m. Concert tickets are \$4 and sold in advance at the Information, Tickets and Travel Office in Arnold Hall on

Lackland. Children ages 12 and under are free. Fireworks cap the festival at 10 p.m. Festival goers must have a valid photo ID. No backpacks, pets, coolers, or weapons are allowed on the event grounds. For more information, call 37th Services Marketing and Publicity at 671-3906.

#### Fort Sam Houston

The public is invited to historic Fort Sam Houston for a special "Salute to the Union" Fourth of July ceremony Monday at 11:30 a.m. at the main flagpole on Stanley Road.

A display of 50 state flags will grace the main post flagpole as Fort Sam Houston salutes the 229th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The traditional ceremony will feature a cannon salute to the union fired in succession for each of the 50 states starting with Delaware.

Members of the "Sons of the American Revolution," dressed in period uniforms, will ring a commemorative bell 13 times to commemorate the original 13 colonies that first formed the United States of America. The Army Medical Command Band will perform patriotic music before and after the ceremony. For more information, call 221-1099 or 221-1139.

Seguin Biggest Small-town 4th of July Parade in Texas

Ambassadors from Brooks City-Base, Air Intelligence Agency, Fort Sam Houston and Lackland and Randolph AFBs will participate in the Seguin Biggest Smalltown 4th of July Parade in Texas.

The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at Central Park and will end a the Seguin-Guadalupe County Coliseum. For more information, call 830-401-5000.

Ed Shannon, 311th HSW/PA

# AF legend passes away at 94

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The Air Force lost a legend June 19 when Gen. Bernard Adolf Schriever passed away. He was 94.

Schriever Heritage Park at Brooks City-Base and Schriever AFB in Colorado are named in honor of an Air Force visionary who, as the "Father of the Air Force Space Program," pioneered the development of intercontinental ballistic missiles and the Air Force Manned Orbiting Laboratory.

"He was instrumental in Brooks becoming the Air Force center for human factors research," said Shelia Klein, Brooks Heritage Foundation executive director. As an outspoken advocate for human-centered research, Mrs. Klein noted, General Schriever used his influence as the Air Force Systems Command's first commander from 1959-1966 to significantly enhance aerospace research and development at Brooks.

Born in Bremen, Germany on Sept. 14, 1910, he immigrated to New Braunfels, Texas with his parents in 1917. "He grew up in this area. During the Schriever Heritage Park dedication in 1986, he said he had fond memories of Brooks. As a little boy he stood along the fence at Brooks Field to watch the planes," Mrs. Klein

He received his early schooling in San Antonio where he also helped his mother and younger brother Gerhard earn a living operating a soft drink and sandwich stand near a golf course. By 1923, he had

become a naturalized citizen. After graduating from Texas A&M College in 1931, he began his military career at Randolph Field. He earned his wings and an Army Air Corps commission at Kelly Field in

During the Great Depression, he flew commercial planes and also commanded a Civilian Conservation Corps camp. By 1938 he was a full-time Army Air Corps officer. The following year he became a test pilot at Wright Field, in Dayton, Ohio, where he also earned an Air Corps Engineering School aeronautical engineering degree. After earning a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from Stanford University in 1942, he served in the Pacific Theater during World War II as a bomber pilot.

In 1954, he became commander of the Air Force Research and Development Command's Western Development Division that was responsible for America's ballistic missile program. He later became the driving force for the creation of the Aerospace Medical Division within Air Force Systems Command by consolidating all life and behavioral sciences in support of aerospace research.

At his Air Force retirement ceremony in 1966, General Schriever said, "We all play a part in shaping the character and caliber of our society by the way we lead our lives and conduct our business affairs. Each of us has an obligation to return to our country some small portion of what it has given us with the sort of patriotism that functions without ballyhoo in the quiet places of the heart."



Courtesy photo

Gen. Bernard Schriever



# A LOOK at BROOKS

How do you plan on celebrating Independence Day?



Tech. Sgt. Alphonso Smith 311th MSG

We're going to have a traditional barbeque in the backyard with our friends.



Leticia Martinez 311th MSG

Barbequing outside and popping fireworks with my children.



Master Sgt. Lorenzo McFarland AFMSA

I have family coming in from Bellville and we will be barbequing at my house. Then the men are going fishing in Corpus.



Senior Master Sgt. Robert Spencer AFMSA

I will be spending it with family and friends at Lackland's celebration.



Tech. Sgt. Lisa Padberg USAFSAM

My family is in Utah, so I will be spending it playing with my new kitten and reading.

# Visit the Discovery online at www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery





# Heritage Conference pools wisdom, experience

By 1st Lt. Lea Ann Chambers

AFMC Public Affairs

Men who are the keepers of decades of Air Force history and wisdom met in a crowded auditorium Thursday to discuss current and future issues facing Air Force Materiel Command.

But it wasn't just business that brought 14 former leaders together with Gen. Gregory Martin, AFMC commander and Lt. Gen. Richard Reynolds, AFMC vice commander, for the annual three-day Heritage Conference here. Some of it was about seeing old friends.

"It's great to spend time with current leadership, peers, and even my mentors," said Gen. (ret.) Lester Lyles, AFMC commander from April 2000 to October 2003, who is seeing the conference from the guest perspective for the second time. "There are two guys here who have known me since I was a captain. This is what mentoring is all about."

Many expressed appreciation at being given the opportunity each year to be brought up to speed on what is happening in the Air Force and AFMC specifically. It's a chance to see authoritatively what's happening in the

command, said Lt. Gen. (ret.) William Thurman, a decorated combat pilot and former Air Force Systems Command vice commander.

General Thurman is a 1954 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., and his awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart and Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters

Among topics discussed by the group were the state of the command, Base Realignment and Closure, Air Force Research Laboratory transformation, expeditionary logistics and civilian health and fitness. The Heritage Conference provides these leaders a unique opportunity to share lessons learned with the current command leadership.

The event gave General Martin and General Reynolds a chance to showcase the command to the former leaders who shaped not only AFMC but also its predecessors, Air Force Logistics Command and Air Force Systems Command.

"The Heritage Conference allows General Martin and his staff to connect to the bigger community. Not just retired generals but to industry as well," said Lt. Gen. (ret.) Charles Coolidge, who served as AFMC vice commander from February 2000 to January 2004. "There's a good crossflow of ideas and it's a good opportunity to build a partnership between industry, community and command leadership."

Before coming to AFMC, General Coolidge served on the Joint Staff and was the Joint Staff representative to the U.S. - U.S.S.R. Standing Consultative Commission, which met biannually in Geneva. He is also a command pilot with more than 4,100 flying hours.

The conference was also an opportunity for former commanders to assess current leadership. "The command has flourished under General Martin," said General Lyles, who was a member of AFSC before the merger that created AFMC and who also served as vice chief of staff of the Air Force before taking command at AFMC. "He's taken everything in the command to a new level. It's great to see where the command is going."

The most important aspect of the conference is the exchange of ideas, said Lt. Gen. (ret.) Ken Eickmann, who served as the Aeronautical Systems Center commander from May 1996 to June 1998, during which he also served as acting AFMC commander for a short time.

The state of Oklahoma declared July 11, 1995 "General Exemple Elickmann Day" in recognition of his leadership and assistance to federal and state rescue and recovery efforts following the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Building in General Exemple General Exemple Exempl

The most important aspect of the conference is the exchange of ideas, said Lt. Gen. (ret.) Ken Oklahoma City Air Logistics Eickmann, who served as the Center.

Feedback going to and from the commander in open discussions during the conference provides all participants with viewpoints and knowledge they didn't have before, General Eickmann said.

"There's a sense of patriotism that still beats through our hearts," said General Coolidge. "The conference is all about asking, 'How can I help?', 'How can we as a group help the Air Force?'"

#### Club membership card has new look

By Janice McMahon

311th MSG/Services Division

In conjunction with the merger of Bank One with Chase Bank, the Air Force club membership card is being redesigned. The current card was introduced in 1999, and no changes have been made to it since that time. Due to the merger, Chase Bank is "rebranding" all previous Bank One cards, including Air Force club membership cards.

Over the last several months, the Club Division at Air Force Services Agency has been working with Chase Bank and developed several possible card designs. Those designs were worked and reworked and a selection was made and reported back to Chase Bank for them to put into production. The new design depicts the Thunderbirds, and incorporates the

Chase logo and the Services logo. The result is a completely fresh, new look.

The new cards are scheduled to be "mass reissued" in the August to September time frame. The new cards retain the same membership benefits, rate and terms. All MasterCard club membership cards will be issued in August. Club members will receive the new cards, along with an invitation to enroll in the Military Free Cash program if not already enrolled.

All Private Label club membership cards will be issued in September. Prior to their reissue, Chase Bank reviews all Private Label cardholders for the possibility to upgrade them to MasterCard.

Those that are upgraded will also receive the offer of the Military Free Cash Program.





BRIG.GEN.TOMTRAVIS 311th Human Systems Wing commander

# ACTION LINE

# 536-2222

The COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222**.

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

#### The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

Brooks City-Base Security	536-2851	Civilian Personnel	536-3353
311th Communications Squadron	536-6571	Military Pay	536-5778
311th Mission Support Group —		Civilian Pay	536-8370
Logistics Division	536-3541	Inspector General (FWA)	536-2358
Safety	536-2111	Military Equal Opportunity	536-2584
Housing Maintenance	533-5900	EEO Complaints	536-3702
Housing Office	533-5905	Brooks Development Office	536-3655
311th Services Division	536-2545	Brooks City-Base Marketing and	
59th Medical Squadron (Clinic)	536-4715	Development Office	536-5366
Military Personnel	536-1845		

#### HONOR GUARD OPEN RANKS



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Brig. Gen. Tom Travis, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Reggie Williams inspect the uniforms of three honor guard members at a recent open ranks inspection.

#### FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

#### VA BENEFITS ASSISTANCE

Mondays — 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bldg. 537

A VA representative will be at Brooks weekly. Schedule an appointment to receive VA assistance in filling out your claims, screen medical records, or one-on-one consultations. A copy of one's medical records is required.

#### SPONSOR TRAINING

July 12 — 10 - 11 a.m., Bldg. 537

In accordance with AFI 36-3011, sponsor training is mandatory of all first-time sponsors and those who have not sponsored within the past year. However, others are more than welcome to attend. Learn about tools and resources available for sponsors.

#### COMMON SENSE PARENTING

July 13 — 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bldg. 537

This program is designed to teach parents skills that will encourage positive behavior, discourage negative behavior and teach alternatives to problem behavior.

#### RETIREMENT PLANNING

July 19 — 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bldg. 537

Everyone has retirement dreams — travel, vacation home, hobbies and more. Whatever the dreams are, you'll need a solid financial founda-

tion to help accomplish these goals and plans. How much will it cost to secure your retirement dreams? Attend this seminar to find out how to make your dreams come true.

#### SEPARATION AND RETIREMENT

July 20 — 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537

This is a mandatory class for active military personnel who are retiring or separating within 120 days. Topics covered are Pre-Separation, Veterans Benefits, Survivors Benefit Plans, TRICARE, and Financial Planning for Transition. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

#### **BUNDLES FOR BABIES**

July 28 — 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., Bldg. 537

Expectant Parents Session — Active duty Air Force couples with a newborn or expecting a child should plan on attending this Air Force Aid Society sponsored class. Obtain information about budgeting, basic baby care, infant development, effective parenting, car seat regulations, and much more.

#### PREDEPLOYMENT BRIEFINGS

July 26 — 1 - 2 p.m., Bldg. 537

Mandatory briefings address issues that pertain to deployed service members and their families. Appointments necessary.

Call 536-2444 to register



#### New program at Brooks for sexual assault victims

By 2nd Lt. John Chattaway
311th Human Systems Wing/Public Affairs

Victims of sexual assault now have a new and confidential way of reporting sexual assault without initially involving the Office of Special Investigation or the legal office. The new process is called restricted reporting.

Restricted reporting is an option for sexual assault victims who wish to confidentially disclose a crime to the base Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, the base chaplain or their health care provider without opening an official, legal investigation.

Once the base SARC is informed of a sexual assault, he or she will find out if the victim needs medical attention, counseling or legal assistance, and then assigns a victim advocate to aid the victim, said Capt. Allen Blair, Brooks City-Base Sexual Assault Response Coordinator.

"A victim advocate is a person who is there by the victim's side whenever the victim needs them, whether it is with them for an examination at the hospital or being by their side at the trial, if the victim chooses to press charges," said Captain Blair.

According to Captain Blair, there are currently 16 volunteers who wish to be victim advocates at Brooks. Of these, eight will be chosen and will receive official training July 6.

Prior to restricted reporting, the only option someone had for reporting sexual assault was unrestricted reporting, in which case OSI had to get involved and would lead to a legal investigation of the assault.

"The important thing to remember is that if a person wants restricted reporting he or she must

contact me, the chaplain or a health care provider. If they choose to go to their supervisor, commander, law enforcement, OSI, or a friend, then they no longer have the option of restricted reporting," said Captain Blair.

Air Force statistics show that 80 percent of sexual assaults go unreported.

"The hope of this program is that once the victims have received the counseling and treatment they need, that they will eventually go ahead and seek prosecution of the offender. That's the hope of restricted reporting," said Captain Blair.

Captain Blair emphasized that anytime there is sexual assault, he wants to be the first point of contact for the victim.

"I want to be certain that victims get the help that they need," said Captain Blair. "I want to make sure that the individual has the right to restricted reporting, and that they understand all options available to them so that they can make an informed decision."

Captain Blair can be contacted at his office at 536-7272. For more information on the Department of Defense's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program, go online at www.sapr.mil.



### Road rage avoided with proper planning

By Elizabeth Castillo

Discovery writer

Summer activities such as water sports and barbeques require special preparations and safety precautions. However, the drive to such destinations can be equally as hazardous and require just as much preparation and concern.

As summer temperatures rise, it is important to keep cool in stressful driving situations.

Aggressive driving, otherwise known as road rage, is an increasing hazard to motorists, and according to AAA, has a compound growth rate of seven percent. Usually caused by frustration and anger, road rage involves the deliberate dangerous and violent behavior when an automobile is in use.

"Aggressive driving is a developing situation on our roads today due to congestion, road conditions and the amount of construction that is going on," said David Lemme, Chief of Safety for the 311th Human Systems Wing.

Some cases of Road Rage may involve hitting another person or vehicle with either the drivers own vehicle or an object, or in some extreme casses, firing a weapon. The three main categories that classify influences that may cause road rage are the environment, instructive responses and territorial defensiveness.

Due to a driver's kinship with their cars, a relationship is formed and the pair are a familial unit on the road. Though this bond can be beneficial, it may also lead to a territorial defensiveness when their comfort zone is invaded by a fellow motorist. When this happens, a natural sense of anger may take over and cause the driver to behave erratically.

"We can't underestimate the other driver's capability of causing mayhem on the road," Mr. Lemme said. "What we can do is drive defensively, be prepared for these situations and be knowledgeable as to what actions we should take to extract ourselves from the potentially hazardous situations that we may be faced with on the road."

While some instances of road rage may be caused by anger towards another motorist, some situations that cause frustration are those in which drivers cannot control. Some stressors drivers may face on a daily basis are those of the conditions of the road such as construction or unexpected road closers. Time management and careful planning are some actions drivers can take in order to prevent frustration when faced with unexpected delays.

Mr. Lemme suggests listening to radio traffic announcements for updates of traffic conditions, accidents or road closures. "Give yourself ample time," he said. "Don't plan your trip down to the last minute. It never hurts to be early."

The environment outside is not limited to the conditions of the road, but also the weather. As summer enters its hottest temperatures, it is important to maintain a "cool head" while driving. With the long hot sum-

Things to do around Brooks

mer days, a sitting car develops a sweltering amount of heat in its interior.

In order to reduce the heat before entering a vehicle, Mr. Lemme recommends opening the car doors in order to allow the heat to dissipate. This only takes a couple of minutes and it will allow the interior of the car to cool resulting in a more comfortable environment. He also reminds drivers to drink plenty of water.

The conditions of the road and the weather outside are uncontrollable. A driver is able to reduce the stress for themselves and others by practicing common courtesies. Some courtesies include: not using a cell phone while driving, not blocking passing lanes, using a signal when changing lanes, and refraining from making obscene gestures at other motorists.

"The best way to avoid becoming a target of an aggressive driver is to practice good traffic courtesy," said Mr. Lemme.

Though there are many factors that may impair a driver's psychological state such as weather, territorial rights or stress from work and home, it is important to stay calm while driving. Having a route planned, and plenty of time to reach a destination will also help relieve the stress of having to drive on the many heavily congested roads.

"Learn how to identify what stress factors affect you, take actions to prevent those stress factors from affecting your mood and practice reducing the stress," Mr. Lemme said.

#### OUTDOOR RECREATION

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Outdoor Recreation has three party pavilions available for use. Pavilion #1 rents for \$35 per day and Pavilion #2 is \$30 per day. They are located in the park with playground area, basketball and volleyball courts. Pavilion #1 has a large BBQ pit for your functions. Pavilion #3 rents for \$25 per day and is located adjacent to base swimming pool All pavilions have access to restrooms. These are a great location for birthday parties, family reunions, official functions and just to get to-

gether with friends.

SYDNEY'S

Bldg. 714, 536-2077

Are you aware that active duty military, retired military, DoD civilians, NAF employees, tenant units and contractors assigned to Brooks City-Base may dine at Sidney's? The hours of operation are:

Breakfast:

Monday to Friday — 5:45 to 7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast:

Weekends/holidays — 8 to 10 a.m. Lunch: Weekly — 10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dinner: Weekly — 4 to 6 p.m.

Dinner: Weekly — 4 to 6 p.m.

Enjoy the following buffets:
Mondays — American Buffet
Tuesdays — Italian Buffet
Wednesdays — Oriental Buffet
Thursday — Mexican Buffet
Friday — Seafood and Country Buffet

SWIMMING POOL

Bldg. 821, 536-2636

The pool is now open and available for base use. Open swim hours are from 1 to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends and holidays. Pool passes are \$10 each with a \$50 maximum per family. Swimmers can purchase a day pass for \$1.50. Passes may be purchased at the fitness center or pool. The pool is also available for group parties, which can be scheduled through the head lifeguard.

The pool is also offering swim lessons to both toddlers and beginning to intermediate swimmers. There is just one remaining session for lessons.

GOLF COURSE Bldg. 821, 536-2636

Golf 4 Kids will start a new session July 25 at the Golf Course. Golf 4 Kids is sponsored by the Air Force Services Agency and the

Brooks Golf Course. The program includes:

- Minimum of eight hours of instruction for children between the ages 8 and 13
- Lessons on all aspects of the golf swing and short game play
  - Professional on-course instruction
  - Overview of etiquite, rules and equipment
  - Three supervised on-course plays
- A free set of top quality junior clubs upon graduation

Contact Jose Valadez, golf course manager, at 536-2636 for more information.









BUTLER



FULL NAME/RANK: Staff Sgt. Danielle Butler

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION: Aerospace Medical Technician, 59th Medical Squadron

### IN SIMPLE TERMS, WHAT DO YOU DO?:

Flight Med Tech for short. We take care of the "Flyers" and their family's medical care. Also, we see all of the Test Subjects. I assist the Provider with screening patients and procedures.

BIRTHDAY: April 24, 1979

HOMETOWN: Zeigler, Illinois

#### FAMILY STATUS:

Married, no children. (Two cats, two dogs, some random fish, a snail and a frog.)

#### **INSPIRATIONS:**

My mother — a single mom who raised two kids, one with a disability, while working full time and completing her bachelor's of science degree.

My father — the hardest working person I know.

#### HOBBIES:

Cooking/baking, fishing, hunting, "Ebaying" (my new found love.)

PET PEEVE: Whining patients (just kidding)

# I JOINED THE MILITARY BECAUSE:

Initially, it was for the education and to get away. I also have always been interested in the military. Now, I really enjoy serving my country and taking care of our patients. I reenlisted right after coming back from deployment.

#### FIVE-YEAR GOAL:

Either be commissioned as a USAF Physician's Assistant or still be in medical school

ULTIMATE GOAL:

To be happy with my life and career

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT: So far, it's moving away from my small hometown and finishing my

CCAF education.



By Kendahl Johnson

Discovery editor

For one Brooks employee, working in medicine and helping others in medical need has gone from an interest to an assignment to a passion. Now, she is shooting for the stars, with her goals all pointing towards a successful career as a physician's assistant or even doctor.

Staff Sgt.
Danielle Butler
works for the
59th Medical
Squadron as an
aerospace
medical technician at the
Brooks clinic.
She is serious
about her calling

in medicine, and plans to take it a step further – she is applying for the Air Force's physician's assistant program.

tor.

"It's a pretty competitive program so I try not to get my hopes up," she said, admitting that even if she is not selected, it won't deter her goals. "I work with a lot of doctors here who are encouraging me to go to medical school. One way or another I will end up as a physician's assistant or a doctor."

Sergeant Butler's interest in medicine started at an early age. She grew up in a small town in Southern Illinois called Zeigler. Her younger sister Allison has Spina Bifida. "We were always in the hospital with her. We'd go to Chicago with her every four to six months," she said

Following her high school graduation, she spent 18 months at a community college studying with an eye towards a biology degree. But her uncle, who is in the Marines, got her interested in the military. "I had one foot in the door to the Marines," she said. "But my uncle talked me out of it. He said if you really want to be treated like a person, join the

Air Force instead." She took his advice and enlisted in the Air Force in October 1999.

Although she was interested in a medical career, her recruiter didn't exactly encourage her in that direction. Instead of selecting a medical assignment, she came into the Air Force under open general. "I am not sure what I was thinking. It was very risky. Everybody told me I was going to be a

I work with a lot of doctors here

who are encouraging me to go

to medical school. One way or

another I will end up as a

physician's assistant or a doc-

Staff Sgt. Danielle Butler

59th Medical Squadron

cop. But I lucked out and got a good job," she said.

Following her career placement, she spent six months in tech school at Sheppard Air Force Base.
She spend

seven weeks at Scott AFB, III. preparing for her first assignment, which ended up being Brooks. She said she had no idea what to expect. "I had never heard of Brooks. My recruiter hadn't even heard of it."

Despite her initial trepidation (and shock of coming to such a large city – her graduating class was just 35 people), she said she has enjoyed her assignments at Brooks. She was initially assigned to the primary care unit at the Clinic. There, she enjoyed working mostly with retirees.

She was recently assigned to work with the flight medicine unit, where she works with a small team – just one doctor and three technicians. Her main responsibility is taking care of all those at Brooks who are on flying status and their families, but she also works with test subjects and tech school students.

Working in medicine and helping people has been rewarding, but Sergeant Butler said her career highlight thus far has been her deployment. In March 2003, she was deployed to the United Arab Emirate as a medical

technician. She had the opportunity to build a brand new base from the ground up

"We took a small piece on a UAE military base and built some tents and started a little clinic. We supported the pilots who flew in and out of Baghdad, taking supplies to military troops at war in Iraq. I got to fly and do some really neat stuff I probably won't get to do anywhere else," she said.

Sergeant Butler wouldn't mind being deployed again, but her husband might not be as excited. She met her husband in Illinois while working at a small grocery store. They dated for a year, but she already had plans to join the military. "I tried to get rid of him, but we ended up staying together," she said jokingly. "He was pretty persistent and followed me here to Texas."

She was married in October 2001, just 18 months before her deployment and the time apart was difficult for the newlyweds. "He was very supportive," she said. Because the clinic is now under Wilford Hall, Sergeant Butler expects to be deployed again, but hopes it isn't before she completes her application for a physician's assistant slot. She is working hard towards this goal, particularly in the area of education. She recently graduated from the Community College of the Air Force. She is currently taking courses four nights a week and will finish all her requisite courses in the fall.

As she celebrates her fifth anniversary at Brooks, Sergeant Butler does not take her job for granted. She said she works with a lot of great doctors and that working in flight medicine "is a privilege."

"I have tried to do a good job," she said. "I think I am a pretty hard worker. I try to live by the strong work ethic my father taught me. I try to do my best in everything." She added that she feels lucky to have had such a great career thus far. The Air Force should also feel lucky to have such a dedicated and hard working individual in the profession.



# AN AEROSPACE MEDICINE SERIES

# CUTTING EDGE ON THE

# Aviation medicine gives birth to physiological innovation

(Editor's note: This is Part 2 of a comprehensive series that focuses on the enormous impact that Air Force vision and ingenuity has had in the development of lifesaving scientific medical advances and innovations whose legacy continues to benefit America's military and civilian community.)

Maj. William Ream, who was the first

flight surgeon to be put on flying

status, was also the first in his field

to be killed in an aircraft accident in

1917 at Chanute Field, III.

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Nobody outside the fledgling community of aviation medicine pioneers could have imagined, when The Great War ended in 1918, any practical uses for the subsequent discoveries and inventions initially made that benefited aircrew health and safety.

Those Americans who took a passing

interest in air races and barnstorming aerobatics demonstrations were content with the momentary thrills aviation feats provided. Few, however, had entertained the notion that physiological stresses endured by "daring young men and women in their flying trapezes" would be the subject of scientific studies that ultimately affected them.

Skeptics of aviation medical research scoffed at Dr. Theodore Lyster's

1918 pronouncement in "The Medical Care of Aviators" when he wrote, "While the deficiencies in the plane have been extensively brought out, few realize that as much can be done for the flier as has been done for the plane."

While the world admired daring pilots who risked their lives, only those whose inspired work at aviation medicine research facilities fully appreciated the ef ficacy of exploring and finding solutions to flight's physiological and psychological problems. The scientific daring they exhibited would eventually have a profound and lasting impact on the lives of the non-flying public.

By the time the School of Aviation Medicine had moved to Brooks Field in 1926, Dr. Lyster's revised flight physical exam had already contributed to enhanced flying safety. "When the physical examination of civilian students became necessary, air accidents caused by students subject to fainting attacks or epileptic convulsions were obviated," observed the school's former commandant Dr. Louis Bauer in the June 1930 Aero Digest article "Medical Aspects of Safe Flying." Dr. Bauer, who in 1930 was the Department of Commerce's medical director for Aeronautics (predecessor of

the Federal Aviation Administration), noted, "In 1927, of civilian air accidents, 75 percent were in the case of unlicensed pilots and 41 percent had never been physically examined."

Ironically, the place where many aviation medical breakthroughs were made was named for a pilot who had lost his life under 'mysterious' circumstances. Brooks Field, which became the Air Force center for human factors aviation medical re-

> search, was so christened for flying cadet Sidney Brooks. He had met his fate in 1917 during a solo flight at Kelly Field. Witnesses to his fatal crash believe he had lost consciousness, suffering what they described as a "fainting spell."

Whatever problems that befell cadet Brooks were among those that scientists grappled with during the 1920s and 1930s. One of their first innovations that enhanced pilot selec-

tion was the development of the Complex Coordinator. This device, a reaction time aptitude test, accurately predicted flying ability. It would eventually lead to the development of advanced neuropsychiatric and personality tests that today are an integral part of Air Force pilot selection.

During this period, Brooks scientists conducted early physiological investigations involving pilot disorientation caused by aerodynamic forces. Col. William Ocker, an instru-

ment flight pioneer, and Maj. David Myers, a flight surgeon, modified the Barany chair used to train pilot candidates. This spinning device used in equilibrium tests, was originally designed to teach aviators not to rely on their senses while aloft.

The Air Force's first Surgeon General Malcolm Grow observed, "It had been firmly established that individuals who were blind-folded, placed in a revolving chair and rotated for a few turns, invariably replied after the chair was gently stopped that they had started to turn in the opposite direction of prior motion. The tendency of an individual's senses to play him false in a situation of this kind is the result of induced vertigo."

The development of the Ocker-Myers "Vertigo Stopper Box" formed the foun-



Miss Hazel Hall of the School of Aviation Medicine administers a time reaction test using the complex coordinator to Andrew Sexton at Randolph Field in 1932.

> vent of flight instrumentation and 'blind However, the evolution of post-World War I aircraft that flew higher and faster

dation for subsequent Air Force spatial

disorientation studies that led to the ad-

for longer durations posed to aviation physiologists a more perplexing problem hypoxia. Oxygen deprivation at altitude had been known for centuries by mountain climbers and balloonists. Few who had investigated its erratic and irrational behavioral effects had a complete understanding of it.

French physician Paul Bert wrote in his 1878 classic "La Pression Barometrique": "It is generally recognized the effects of altitude were caused not by lack of oxygen, but by the diminished partial pressure of oxygen associated with reduced barometric pressure."

Forty years later, some aviation 'experts' had little or no understanding of how oxygen starvation impacts aviator performance.

Writing for the American Medical Association in the 1918 "Medical Studies In Aviation," Dr. Yandell Henderson of Yale University observed, "With the increase in the altitudes at which flying is common, there has been a corresponding increase in the development of socalled air staleness among pilots. It is particularly the most experienced aviators who succumb to this disorder and become unable to fly longer at the necessary altitude.

"Air staleness is a condition in some respects like the irritable heart of the overstrained soldier. To what extent such conditions are functional or neurotic or dependent on some abnormality of chemical balance is a problem that is now under active investigation both in America and in England."



A subject's equilibrium is tested using the balancing chair at the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Field in 1938.

rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil





## **BROOKS BRIEFS**



Job opening at Challenger Learning Center

The Challenger Learning Center of San Antonio is looking for a yearround, part-time flight director. Teaching experience and bilingual capability are a plus, but not required. If you are interested in the position, please contact Bill Merrill at 534-8398 or via e-mail at billmerrill@satx.rr.com.

The CLC SA flies two-hour simulated space missions with the middle school students of San Antonio and the surrounding metropolitan area. More information can be found on their website at www.clcsa.org.

Legal assistance available

If you need a power of attorney, will or other legal assistance, please call the Brooks Legal Office at 536-3301. Legal assistance is available to active duty, dependents and retired military personnel. Our hours are the following: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. by appointment and Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. for walk ins. The notary hours are the following: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 to 3:30 p.m. If you have a short notice deployment or other emergency, please call or walk in to the Legal Office at any time.

Wing awards ceremony

The Brooks 311th Human Systems Wing awards ceremony for the second quarter will be July 21 at 3 p.m. at the Brooks Club. All are invited to at-

Summer day camps

The Youth Programs Center is sponsoring summer day camps through August 12 every Monday through Friday. There is a slight charge for the day camp based on leave and earnings statement. The day camp is open to children ages five through 12. The day camp runs from 6:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Activities for the summer include swimming, arts and crafts, computer time, dance pads, sewing and cooking activities, field trips, playground sports, board games, gardening, guest speakers and much more.

Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided. There is no cost for the day camp. For more information, contact the Youth Programs Center at 536-2515.

#### Space campers take spins on astonaut trainer

by Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Simulation at Camp Challenger took a back seat recently to the reality of space when space campers experienced real disorienting illusions after taking spins in an astronaut trainer called the Barany chair.

The device showed a dozen students who are attending space camp at the Challenger Learning Center of San Antonio that their senses are unreliable when exposed to spatial disorienta-

"It's the same kind of chair that NASA uses

to train astronauts in how they can be disoriented in space," said Bill Merrill, flight director at the Brooks-based Challenger Center. The \$1,800 device, one of 10 distributed to select Challenger Centers worldwide, was obtained through a Challenger Center of Colorado Springs educational consortium grant, Mr. Merrill said. He explained the grant was awarded as a result of a NASA initiative to educate the public on how space affects the human body.

Since the dawn of aviation medicine, spatial disorientation has affected pilot and astronaut performance. Aerodynamic forces work against the human vestibular system, the inner ear mechanism that accounts for balance. The brain is fooled into thinking up is down and right is left.

The Barany chair the School of Aviation Medicine first used to test pilot candidates in 1918, is named for its Austrian-born inventor Robert Barany who won the 1914 Nobel Prize for his work on the physiology and pathology of the vestibular apparatus. The chair was modified in the 1920s at Brooks Field as an early aviation simulator by instrument flight pioneer Col. William Ocker.

Before students were strapped into the modern-day version of the Barany chair, they first learned the physiology and physics behind spatial disorientation. During a Power Point presentation "Which Way Is Up?" Mr. Merrill explained, "In microgravity, or zero-G, space affects astronauts' sense of motion." He subsequently discussed Sir Isaac Newton's first law of motion: the law of inertia.

Prior to the Barany chair demonstrations, students also learned to use the Vision-Shift goggles, a device that allows them to see how the brain adjusts when their senses are altered. The Barany chair experience included students wearing vision and hearing restrictive goggles and earphones.

"It's the first time we've used it at camp." said Mr. Merrill, referring to the device that has become a permanent part of the space camp curriculum.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Challenger Center space camper Dillon Tolsma takes a spin in a Barany chair. The chair is used to train astronauts in spatial disorientation





# HSG wins volleyball league crown

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The Human Systems Group survived personnel turnovers and a withering schedule of top flight contenders to win the 2005 intramural volleyball league championship on June 23.

Seeded first for the base championship tournament that begins Tuesday, HSG hopes to advance to the title game scheduled for 11 a.m., July 8.

"We're fortunate to have been able to hold the team together," said interim player-coach Bill Hall when referring to



Desmond Fahie with the 68th Information Operations Squadron launches a volley during a season-ending game against the league champion Human Systems Group

key players lost to work and school commitments. Three of the original eight teams that began the season in March disbanded.

Admitting the team "didn't know what to expect" of themselves after a threeyear intramural volleyball hiatus at Brooks, HSG nevertheless overcame adversity and a lack of depth. "Early in the season we did not have the (player) height or any big hitters. Our strength was teamwork, good defense and getting our serves in," says Hall. HSG eventually added depth with Steve Dawson and Steve Yelverton as bonafide big hitters. Complementing

> their play has been a pair of husband-wife couples, Ben and Amy Smith and Scott and Melissa Woehl, as well as Brik Eklung, Luis Quintana, Katrice Shields and player-coach Whitney Ponzoha.

The 68th Information Operations Squadron and the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's team #2 gave HSG the most trouble during the regular season. "The first time we played them, we



Photos by Rudy Purificato

The Human Systems Group The 2005 Brooks intramural volleyball league championship team

went the full three games to beat them," Hall said.

HSG only lost three times. The Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence defeated them early in the season, while the Air Force Institute for Operational Health and the 68th IOS beat them late in the season.

The wild card in the base championship tournament is "the unexpected." A group of pool players three years ago staged one of the biggest base championship upsets in Brooks sports history when they defeated defending league champion USAFSAM.

This year is no different, considering the variables. One variable that may tip the balance of power in the playoffs is Lorenzo McFarland, former Brooks men's varsity volleyball team head coach who is assigned to the Air Force Medical Support Agency.

"I joined the AFIOH team in the last week of the season," says the veteran volleyball player who is a self-described 'ringer with bad knees.' AFIOH did not recruit him, but had the 'luck of the draw' from a roster of pool players.

"Things can happen in the playoffs. The dynamics can change," says the former coach who has had his share of tournament surprises as one of the Air Force's most experienced volleyball play-

#### Brooks night golf sheds light on sport

By Rudy Purificato 311th Human Systems Wing

They were more inclined to hum "glow little glowworm" instead of "You Light Up My Life" on the Brooks links last Friday night. For in playing an illuminating round, golfers "saw the light" of relying on night vision to hit balls that glow in the dark.

Night golf attracted about two dozen adventurous souls for the June 24 Project Cheer event cosponsored by 311th Services and the Brooks Company Grade Officers Council.

"It's something out of the norm, but it gives pipeline students something to do," said Capt. Michael Wyatt, 311th Services deputy director. Night golf premiered at Brooks on April 29 when about 30 golfers were introduced to this unusual event that was inaugurated worldwide 13 years ago.

"I was introduced to night golf in 2002 when I was stationed at

Anderson Air Force Base, Guam," recalls Captain Wyatt about a variation of the popular sport that uses artificial light.

Translucent golf balls are used where light sticks of varying hues are inserted inside the spheres. Red, yellow, blue and green glowing golf balls were featured during the Brooks event to identify players on various teams, Captain Wyatt explained. The specially engineered luminescent material used in night golf glows for up to eight hours and is about three times brighter than standard glow sticks.

The course was also marked with glow sticks placed at yardage markers, on top of the pins and down the center of fairways. The Florida scramble format involved an abridged game consisting of holes 8, 4, 5, 6 and 7. No flashlights were needed during the contest, Captain Wyatt noted, and nobody was pestered by overly amorous fireflies.



A group of night golfers at a recent Services activity.

Courtesy photo

### Summer hoop league launches third season

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

An anticipated sports entrée will be added to the summer bill of fare July 12 when lunchtime basketball launches its third season.

A half-dozen teams will compete in this extramural hoop activity through September that will be followed by a post-season championship tournament.

"Roy (Conatzer) and I came up with the idea for summer basketball in 2003," said Brooks fitness center specialist Tim Martin, referring to the fitness center director.

The impetus for it is to provide an organized forum for lunchtime players who, historically, have played pickup

"We have nothing between July and September in terms of sports (other than intramural golf)," Mr. Martin said.

This year, regular season games will be played after duty hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. However, the post-season championship game is tentatively scheduled for a lunchtime tip-off time.

Last year, Team 4 led by player-coach and league cofounder "Shug" Martin, defeated Team 1 for the crown in an 81-65 blowout. The Rob Taylor-led Team 1 squad had previously won the summer hoop championship in the league's inaugural year.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

The Brooks summer lunch-time basketball league kicks off its third season July 12.

# MSG wins league softball title

By Rudy Purificato

The Mission Support Group beat long odds and a flurry of perennial contenders to win the 2005 Brooks intramural softball league championship June 23.

In winning their second league title in the last four years, MSG has earned a firstround bye in the single-elimination base championship tournament that begins Wednesday.

MSG last won the league title in 2002, but lost the base crown in the title game to the perennial combined champion Air Force Institute for Occupational Health/Air Force Research Laboratory team.

The pre-season favorites AFIOH/AFRL and the defending 2004 base champ Human Systems Group ended up in a three-way tie for second place with the 68th Information Operations Squadron's 'A' team.

MSG has a huge obstacle to overcome in the playoffs in its quest to win the elusive base championship. AFIOH/AFRL has won the last eight consecutive base championships as the greatest 'big game' clutch team in Brooks sports history.

#### FINAL LEAGUE STANDINGS

Mission Support Group 68th IOS (A) Human Systems Group AFIOH/AFRL 5-2 5-2 USAFSAM 5-3 **USAMRD** (Army) 1-7 68th IOS (B) 0-9